

- THE EPA -

MERCURY CHALLENGE

PARTNERS-TO-PARTNERS

DIRECTORY

WE HELP PROTECT THE NEW ENGLAND ENVIRONMENT.



2000 EPA Partners

for Change

Mercury Challenge

**Recognizing and rewarding New England's commitment
to environmental improvement.**

welcome

Widespread exposure to mercury is among the most serious environmental health risks in New England. That's why the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) New England Office established the Partners for Change: Mercury Challenge in 1999. This program challenged medical facilities in New England to lead the nation in eliminating mercury and/or mercury containing waste by 2003. Many medical facilities in New England, including our 2000 Mercury Challenge Partners, have already made a major difference in helping to reduce mercury in the environment.

Mercury exposure can lead to irreversible neurological effects, including learning disabilities and delayed motor skill development. One mercury thermometer can contaminate up to 25,000 gallons of water. Across New England, more than 80 percent of inland waters have fish too polluted with mercury to eat.

Recently, the national effort Hospitals for a Healthy Environment developed a pledge program to help encourage hospitals to eliminate mercury from their waste streams and reduce total waste. Now that New England hospitals can receive National recognition for their efforts, the region will discontinue its Mercury Challenge Program this year and will promote the national pledge and future awards program to recognize New England hospitals in 2001.

This Partners-to-Partners Directory lists the 2000 Mercury Challenge Partners, a description of their activities, and information about the national pledge program for those interested in receiving national recognition for reducing mercury and waste at their hospital.

I congratulate our Partners for their good work and hope they will continue to expand their mercury reduction efforts. I also encourage others to join them by taking the national Hospitals for a Healthy Environment pledge so that together we can get rid of mercury from our environment.

Ira Leighton
Acting Regional Administrator
EPA New England

the program

What is the Partners for Change: Mercury Challenge?

Mercury is a concern not only in the northeast but across the nation. That's why the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's New England Office used its existing Partners for Change program to focus on mercury reductions. With this program, EPA challenged New England medical facilities to lead the nation in eliminating mercury and/or mercury-containing waste by 2003. All of the 2000 Mercury Challenge Partners listed in this directory completed a baseline mercury inventory, set mercury goals, developed an action plan and reported on progress made in reducing mercury.

Visit the our Mercury Challenge website at <http://www.epa.gov/region01/steward/neeat/mercury/> for more information on the Mercury Challenge Program, 1999 and 2000 partners, case studies, publications, websites of interest and compliance information.

connecticut partners

Day Kimball Hospital

320 Pomfret Street

Putman, CT 06260

Tel: (860) 963-6313 x2137

Contact: Martin J. Nugent

- General acute care community hospital
- 104 beds
- Home care department

Day Kimball Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including eliminating mercury thermometers from its laboratory. The hospital laboratory and pharmacy have taken steps to purchase products to replace mercury containing products. The hospital recycles mercury waste from its laboratory, pharmacy and nursing units. In addition, the hospital is starting to trial non-mercury patient thermometers. Day Kimball Hospital's mercury reduction goal is to eliminate the use of mercury thermometers and mercury blood pressure units. In addition, the hospital will look for alternatives to replace other mercury containing surgical equipment and switches. Day Kimball hopes to reduce its mercury by 33% by 2004.

connecticut partners

Hartford Hospital
80 Seymour Street
Hartford, CT 06102-5037
Tel: (860) 545-1387
Contact: Michael Tortora

- Acute care facility
- 840 beds

Hartford Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including the replacement of 765 wall mounted and 200 portable mercury sphygmomanometers with non-mercury aneroid units. This resulted in approximately 241 lbs of mercury being recycled. In addition, 35 lbs of mercury was removed from their service areas that had been used for maintenance activities. The hospital converted from mercury containing thermometers to non-mercury electronic. In addition, the hospital recycles its fluorescent light bulbs.

Hartford Hospital is also being recognized under the Partners for Change program for its various environmental programs. Hartford Hospital has developed a centralized chemical inventory computer data base in order to identify duplicate ordering from different departments and to eliminate any waste stream for which there is an alternative non-hazardous product. The hospital is recycling both Formaldehyde and Americlear (xylene substitute) onsite. In 2000, Hartford Hospital recycled 698,560 lbs of cardboard, 35,220 lbs of white and newspaper, 15,700 lbs of confidential waste, 14,560 lbs of bottles and cans and 7,927 lbs of fluorescent lights. In January 1999, the hospital eliminated ethylene oxide from its facility by purchasing a new technology that does not utilize ethylene oxide. In March 1998, the hospital eliminated a toxic waste stream by replacing a hazardous product used to perform parts washing. Hartford Hospital has begun to convert PCB light ballasts with about 35% of the facility converted to date. In November 1998, the hospital started a program to recycle old computers with about 1,000 computers recycled to date.

The William W. Backus Hospital
326 Washington Street
Norwich, CT 06360
Tel: (860) 889-8331
Contact: Robert M. Coggeshall

- Acute care health facility

William W. Backus Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including the elimination of mercury containing oral thermometers and the conversion of 99% of the hospital's mobile sphygmomanometers with a non-mercury alternative. The hospital plans on replacing the stationary mercury-

connecticut partners

containing sphygmomanometers. In June 2000, the hospital eliminated approximately 1,100 mercury thermometers by discontinuing the practice of sending mercury thermometers home with patients. In addition, the hospital began purchasing low mercury containing fluorescent light bulbs in 1998. This has resulted in a 60% reduction in regular light bulb recycling amounts. The hospital plans to continue the replacement of fluorescent bulbs with low mercury bulbs and to replace mercoïd switches and other minor ancillary equipment with appropriate substitutes as they become available, with a target date of total replacement by 2003.

maine partners

Cary Medical Center
163 Van Buren Road, Suite 1
Caribou, ME 04736
Tel: (207) 498-1604
Contact: Romeo J. Parent

- Rural hospital
- 65 acute care beds

Cary Medical Center is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements which includes the elimination of all mercury thermostats, 30% replacement of all mercury containing sphygmomanometers with non-mercury units, and the elimination of over 80% of all mercury containing chemicals from their laboratory. The hospital plans to undertake the following mercury reduction activities over the next several years: 1) begin phase out its mercury containing sphygmomanometers in 2001, 2) begin fluorescent bulb recycling in early 2002 with input and participation from surrounding community, and 3) through policy and education strive to replace all remaining mercury containing products and equipment with non-mercury suitable substitutes in 2002 and beyond. Since 1996, the hospital stopped the practice of sending new mothers and patients home with mercury thermometers. Cary Medical Center plans to continue research for mercury free or mercury reduced alternatives to any existing product, chemical or equipment item still in facility inventory, replacing as new stock is ordered or as funding allows.

maine partners

Maine Medical Center

22 Bramhall Street

Portland, ME 04102

Tel: (207) 871-2513

Contact: Jeffrey C. Sanborn

- Tertiary care health research and education
- 606 beds

Maine Medical Center is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements, including eliminating almost all of the hospital's mercury sphygmomanometers and about 90% of the hospital's manometers. This year Maine Medical Center donated \$1,000 worth of non-mercury thermometers to the City of Portland for a mercury awareness program. Residents were allowed to bring in all types of mercury containing devices. These accomplishments build on last year's efforts which included eliminating the purchase of non-mercury blood pressure units, thermometers and other mercury containing devices where an acceptable alternative exists and expanding the hospital's existing battery recycling program.

MaineGeneral Health:

MaineGeneral Medical Center, Waterville Campus,
MaineGeneral Medical Center, Augusta Campus,
MaineGeneral Rehabilitation and Nursing Care in Augusta,
MaineGeneral Health Associates in Gardiner,
Jackman Region Health Center in Jackman and
HealthReach Network in Waterville

6 East Chestnut Street

Augusta, Maine 04330

Tel: (207) 626-1476

Contact: Paul Stein

- 2 acute care medical centers
- 2 long term care facilities
- Physician practices
- 500 beds each
- 200 beds each

MaineGeneral Health is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including replacing virtually all mercury containing blood pressure units and eliminating all glass mercury thermometers except a few in the laboratory. In addition, MaineGeneral discontinued the practice of sending patients home with mercury thermometers in 1999. Mercury elimination is a systemwide initiative which encompasses all of MaineGeneral and its subsidiaries. MaineGeneral Health had developed a plan to eliminate mercury from the workplace and environment of care.

maine partners

St. Mary's Regional Medical Center

Campus Avenue

PO Box 291

Lewiston, Maine 04243-0291

Tel: (207) 777-8301

Contact: Paul Blais

- Hospital and Nursing home • 230 beds (hospital)
- 280 beds (nursing home)

St. Mary's Regional Medical Center is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including the replacement of about 90% of its mercury sphygmomanometers, about 50% of its mercury thermometers and about 50% of its mercury esophageal dilators with mercury free alternatives. The medical center has also been recycling all mercury fluorescent lamps since May 1999. In addition, the medical center recycles all mercury batteries. The medical center recently discontinued the practice of sending mercury thermometers home with new mothers. The laboratory has eliminated the use of mercury oxide. The medical center's goal is to become a mercury free organization. By the end of 2001, the medical center plans on completing its replacement of all mercury esophageal dilators, mercury blood pressure units, mercury thermometers and mercury thermostats. St. Mary's Regional Medical Center is also currently including in its efforts the Sisters of Charity Healthcare System which includes the medical center, a nursing home, congregate housing and on-site physician offices.

Mayo Regional Hospital

75 West Main Street

Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426

Tel: (207) 564-4251

Contact: Ralph Gabarro

- Community hospital • 46 beds

Mayo Regional Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements which include replacing mercury thermometers with non-mercury units for patients. The hospital will be replacing mercury light bulbs over time. The hospital's goal is to become mercury free and to ensure appropriate management protocols are in place if a substitute is not possible.

maine partners

Mid Coast Hospital

58 Baribeau Drive

Brunswick, ME 04011

Tel: (207) 443-7550

Contact: Bettie Kettell

- Acute care hospital
- 144 acute beds
- 16 long term beds

Mid Coast Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including evaluating trap sump drains and sewer lines for mercury content and replacing mercury containing devices with alternatives. The laboratory is also phasing out mercury containing chemicals and equipment. The hospital is recycling fluorescent lights and trialing other brands which are safer. The hospital had already eliminated mercury blood pressure units and mercury thermometers in 1992. Mid Coast Hospital's goal is to eliminate mercury that is technically and economically feasible to remove by 2003.

EPA is also recognizing the hospital under the Partners for Change program for its many waste reduction activities including the expansion of its recycling program to include newspapers, magazines and additional plastics. Mid Coast Hospital has been actively educating staff on waste management issues through education programs, articles in the hospital newsletter, a central bulletin board in the cafeteria and an awards program to recognize hospital staff with an "EICKY Trash Award" for outstanding waste management efforts. In 1998, the hospital purchased a pericetic acid sterilant system for items previously gassed with ethylene oxide (EtO) which has significantly reduced the usage of EtO. In addition, gluteraldehyde has been virtually eliminated from Central Supply and Reprocessing (CSR) and endoscopy. The hospital also hopes to work with its vendors to seek new markets for materials that are being landfilled like its surgical wrap which is 100% recyclable and almost sterile yet there is currently no market for the material. The hospital had already been reducing waste through using bulk paper products, using reusable drink cups, purchasing mattresses with built in "egg crates," using reusable bed pads, purchasing toner cartridges with prepaid mailers for return and reclaiming x-ray silver. The hospital also recycles soda bottles and cans, tin cans and kitchen glass. Mid Coast Hospital's priority is to be a "green hospital".

maine partners**Southern Maine Medical Center**

One Medical Center Drive

PO Box 626

Biddeford, ME 04005-0626

Tel: (207) 283-7236

Contact: Marc M. Fournier

- Acute care hospital
- 150 beds

Southern Maine Medical Center is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements which includes replacing over 50 mercury blood pressure units and eliminating mercury thermometers for patient care. In addition, all lab thermometers except one have been removed. The hospital is also finalizing the replacement of their fluorescent lights with T8 low mercury bulbs. Currently, Southern Maine Medical Center is exploring options to replace mercury pressure switches and water level switches. The hospital eliminated mercury weighted dilators in 1998 and stopped the purchase of mercury batteries over five years ago. Southern Maine Medical Center's goal is to eliminate mercury in the facility except for those products that do not have reasonable alternatives.

St. Andrews Hospital and Healthcare Center

3 St. Andrews Lane

Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538

Tel: (207) 633-2121

Contact: Ronald D. Vachon

- Critical access healthcare organization
- 50 beds

St. Andrews Hospital and Healthcare Center is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including eliminating most mercury oral patient thermometers, starting a mercury and alkaline battery recycling program, developing a fluorescent light recycling program and starting the phase out of its mercury blood pressure units. Last year the hospital sent seven pounds of mercury to be recycled. The hospital's next steps include seeking alternatives to the nine remaining mercury oral patient thermometers, continuing its phase out of mercury blood pressure units and looking for alternatives to mercury laboratory thermometers. The hospital, working in cooperation with ME DEP town officials, municipal waste plants and members of the community, plans to hold a community awareness and thermometer collection program to help educate residents about mercury.

massachusetts partners

Anna Jaques Hospital

25 Highland Avenue

Newburyport, MA 01950

Tel: (978) 463-1027

Contact: David Fowler

- Acute care hospital
- 123 beds
- 17 bassinets

Anna Jaques Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including replacing 17 mercury sphygmomanometers in the emergency department. In addition, the hospital held a employee thermometer swap to help educate staff about mercury. During the thermometer exchange, 223 thermometers and 5 lbs of elemental mercury were collected. Over the last year, the hospital replaced its higher mercury content T-12 lamps with the low mercury T-8 lamps. The hospital is evaluating substitutes for mercury thermometers. The hospital had already eliminated mercury esophageal dilators. Anna Jaques Hospital plans to look at all possible ways of reducing mercury and to work towards being mercury free by 2003.

Baystate Health System

Tel: (413) 794-5229

Contact: Mary B. Glavin

Baystate Medical Center (BMC)

759 Chestnut Street

Springfield, MA 01199

- Acute care hospital
- 579 beds
- 57 bassinets

Baystate Medical Center is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements, including the replacement of an additional 133 mercury containing blood pressure units with aneroid units. This year the hospital sent an additional 70 lbs of mercury out to be recycled for a total of 310 lbs of mercury since the Mercury Challenge program started in 1999. In addition, the Baystate Reference Laboratories discontinued its use of the mercury containing reagent B-5. The hospital also continued to recycle its fluorescent lamps. These accomplishments build on last year's efforts which included the removal of 700 mercury blood pressure units.

massachusetts partners

Franklin Medical Center
164 High Street
Greenfield, MA 01301

- Sole acute care hospital
- 96 beds
- 20 bassinets

Franklin Medical Center is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements. In 2000, the hospital continued with its fluorescent lamp recycling program. This accomplishment builds on last year's efforts which included eliminating virtually all mercury containing thermometers and blood pressure units hospital wide.

Mary Lane Hospital
85 South Street
Ware, MA

- Small, rural community based hospital
- 31 beds

Mary Lane Hospital is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements which included continuing its fluorescent lamp recycling program in 2000. The hospital had already converted all of its mercury containing blood pressure units in 1999.

Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice
50 Maple Street
Springfield, MA

The Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including the replacement of all mercury thermometers issued to nurses with electronic thermometers and the replacement of its mercury containing blood pressure unit with a non-mercury alternative. The association also established a fluorescent lamp recycling program. The association is now 99% mercury free with only one mercury thermometer kept for demonstrations.

Hale Hospital
140 Lincoln Avenue
Haverhill, MA 01830
Tel: (978) 521-8175
Contact: Charles Feeney

- Acute care hospital
- 112 beds

Hale Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including removing 230 mercury sphygmomanometers and eliminating the use of mercury thermometers. The hospital sends zinc based thermometers home to new

massachusetts partners

mothers rather than mercury thermometers. The hospital held an employee thermometer swap to help educate staff about mercury. During the thermometer exchange, 346 thermometers and 2 lbs of elemental mercury were collected. The hospital had already replaced its higher mercury content T-12 lamps with the low mercury T-8 lamps. The hospital has eliminated mercury bougies and reduced the number of mercury switches in the heat plant. Hale Hospital has pledged to eliminate all mercury from its waste stream by 2003.

Fairview Hospital

29 Lewis Avenue

Great Barrington, MA 01301

Tel: (413) 528-0790

Contact: Daniel McCarthy

• Acute care hospital • 24 acute care beds • 21 SNF beds • 4 bassinets

Fairview Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements, including replacing all mercury filled blood pressure units with a mercury free alternative, replacing mercury filled esophageal dilators with a mercury free product and reducing the usage of nonessential mercury filled thermometers. In addition, the facility initiated a battery recycling program for the hospital. The hospital is currently researching the possibility of setting up a fluorescent bulb recycling program. Fairview Hospital estimates that their mercury reduction efforts have already removed 70-75% of mercury facility-wide. Fairview Hospital's goals are to develop a mercury purchasing policy to curtail the purchase of mercury products and to become a mercury free facility.

Harrington Memorial Hospital

100 South Street

Southbridge, MA 01550

Tel: (508) 765-9771

Contact: Ross B. Anderson

• General community hospital • 113 beds

Harrington Memorial Hospital is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements, including eliminating 40 more mercury sphygmomanometers from in and out patient areas which completed the conversion process for the hospital. In addition, surgery replaced mercury containing esophageal dilators with a non-mercury alternative. Over the last year the hospital's maintenance and plant operations department has begun using low mercury fluorescent lights. These accomplishments build on last year's efforts which included the elimination of mercury products in its pharmacy and elimination of many mercury containing products from the hospital lab.

massachusetts partners

Heywood Hospital

242 Green Street

Gardner, MA 01440

Tel: (978) 630-6222

Contact: Scott Janssens

- Community hospital
- 126 beds

Heywood Hospital is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements, including the replacement of surgical equipment containing mercury, additional reduction in the number of mercury blood pressure units and a new hospital policy prohibiting the purchase of mercury containing substances. These accomplishments build on previous years efforts which included eliminating the use of mercury thermometers and replacing 80% of its mercury blood pressure units. The hospital's overall goal is to become mercury free and to ensure appropriate management protocols are in place if a substitute is not possible.

Holy Family Hospital and Medical Center

70 East Street

Methuen, MA 01844

Tel: (978) 687-0156 x2063

Contact: Mary Camille Abdoo

- Acute care medical facility
- 223 beds

Holy Family Hospital and Medical Center is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements. By January 2001, all mercury sphygmomanometers will be removed and replaced with a non-mercury alternative. In addition, Holy Family Hospital and Medical Center has phased out mercury patient thermometers except for its isolation patients. These accomplishments build on last year's efforts which included a fluorescent lamp recycling program, the elimination of mercury oxide batteries and its employee mercury education program.

Lahey Clinic

41 Mall Road

Burlington, MA 01805

Tel: (781) 744-5191

Contact: Mary Gray

- Ambulatory care center
- 249 bed hospital

Lahey Clinic is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements which include stopping the purchase of mercury blood pressure units and starting to replace them with non-mercury alternatives. The hospital has already eliminated 18 blood pressure units and plans to phase out the remaining units over the next

massachusetts partners

three years. They also held an employee mercury awareness program including a thermometer exchange with 750 thermometers collected. In addition, the hospital was able to eliminate mercury lab thermometers from the entire lab except one for calibration requirements. The hospital had already eliminated mercury esophageal dilators, mercury thermostats, mercury-containing reagents from laboratory procedures and has a program for recycling fluorescent light bulbs. Lahey Clinic is dedicated to eliminating mercury from its facility.

Lawrence General Hospital

1 General Street

Lawrence, MA 01842

Tel: (978) 683-4000

Contact: Russell Anderson

- Acute care community hospital
- 186 beds
- 41 bassinets

Lawrence General Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including replacing 74 mercury containing blood pressure units with aneroid units. The hospital plans to replace ten mercury blood pressure units in early 2001. The hospital held an employee thermometer swap in 1999 to educate staff about mercury. During the thermometer exchange, over 200 mercury thermometers were collected and recycled. The hospital had already began recycling fluorescent light bulbs and had eliminated mercury patient thermometers. Lawrence General Hospital's goal is to be mercury free by 2003.

New England Medical Center

750 Washington Street

PO Box 834

Boston, MA 02111

Tel: (617) 636-5024

Contact: Michele Plante

- Tertiary care teaching facility
- approx. 400 beds

New England Medical Center is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements, including the purchase of electronic thermometers to replace mercury thermometers used in highly contagious places. In addition, the hospital established a new procedure for all miller abbott tube procedures that require mercury to help minimize potential for mercury exposure. Lastly, NEMC rented a mercury vapor analyzer to analyze past mercury impacts in all patient areas, utility rooms, laboratories, facility shops and other high risk areas. These accomplishments build on previous efforts which included the elimination of mercury thermostats, mercury thermometers except for highly contagious patients and many mercury-containing laboratory chemicals.

massachusetts partners**Northeast Hospitals:**

Addison Gilbert in Gloucester, Beverly Hospital in Beverly, BayRidge Hospital in Lynn, Hunt Center in Danvers and Cable Emergency Center in Ipswich

85 Herrick Street

Beverly, MA 01915

Tel: (978) 922-3000 x2854

Contact: Barbara McCarthy

• 4 Hospitals • 410 bed community based healthcare system

The system of Northeast Hospitals is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including replacing 230 mercury-containing blood pressure units, replacing 35 mercury-containing laboratory thermometers, converting to digital thermometers for patient care use, replacing four mercury switches at the power plant and discontinuing the use of mercury-containing laboratory compounds.

The system has also made two purchasing policy changes including an addendum to all purchase orders requiring vendors to disclose the presence of mercury in all products and a policy to purchase non-mercury equipment and supplies when clinically-acceptable. In addition, the hospital held a employee thermometer swap to help educate staff about mercury. During the thermometer exchange, 350 mercury thermometers were collected. All system sites are also converting to low-mercury fluorescent lamps as they are replaced. In 2000, the system recycled an additional 144 mercury-containing blood pressure units, 49 mercury laboratory thermometers, 1700 T-12 fluorescent lamps and 17.75 lbs of elemental mercury. The system hopes to finish its conversion of most mercury-containing equipment by 2003.

Shriners Hospital for Children

516 Carew Street

Springfield, MA 01104

Tel: (413) 735-1202

Contact: Philip R. Percy

• Speciality orthopaedic hospital • 40 beds

Shriners Hospital for Children is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements, including replacing all of their 65 mercury blood pressure units. In addition, the hospital has begun to recycle its fluorescent bulbs. The hospital had already converted its patient mercury thermometers. The hospital also recycles its button batteries. The hospital is committed to phasing out the use of mercury and mercury-containing products wherever possible.

massachusetts partners

Wing Memorial Hospital and Medical Centers

40 Wright Street

Palmer, MA 01069

Tel: (413) 283-7651

Contact: Ron Krystofik

- 50 bed hospital
- 4 outlying medical centers

Wing Memorial Hospital and Medical Centers are being recognized for their continued mercury reduction achievements including the replacement of all mercury switches in the boiler rooms. The hospital also developed a purchasing policy to buy products that are mercury free. These accomplishments build on last year's efforts which included switching to low mercury fluorescent lamps.

new hampshire partners

Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital

125 Mascoma Street

Lebanon, NH 03766

Tel: (603) 448-3121 ext. 6303

Contact: Barbara MacArthur

- Acute care hospital with extended care facility

Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements, including the replacement of all of its mercury containing sphygmomanometers and the elimination of mercury containing patient thermometers. Currently, the hospital is phasing out mercury lab thermometers, mercury containing reagents and mercury containing switches. The hospital also recycles both fluorescent light bulbs and batteries through an outside contractor. The hospital's goal is substituting non-mercury containing items for those that contain mercury, whenever the option exists.

Huggins Hospital

240 South Main Street

Wolfeboro, NH 03894-0912

Tel: (603) 569-7553

Contact: Walter Deane

- Acute and extended care

Huggins Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including the replacement virtually all mercury glass thermometers with electronic devices. In addition, the hospital has made a conscious effort not to

new hampshire partners

acquire any new mercury-containing products. The hospital hopes to replace mercury blood pressure units by 2003 and has already replaced a few units with aneroid systems. In addition, the hospital has established a goal of reducing the amount of mercury headed to landfills by 50%. The hospital is establishing a mechanism to determine what mercury-containing products are still being purchased and to evaluate alternatives. The hospital plans to establish a hospital-wide policy for procurement of mercury-containing devices.

Franklin Regional Hospital

15 Aiken Avenue

Franklin, NH 03235-1299

Tel: (603) 934-2060

Contact: Katharine Fuller

- Rural hospital
- 49 beds

Franklin Regional Hospital is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements including removing several mercury blood pressure units. In March 2000, the hospital conducted a mercury inventory review which indicated a significant reduction. By January 2001, all mercury sphygmomanometers will be removed and replaced with a non-mercury alternative. These accomplishments build on last year's efforts which included removing most mercury thermometers, adopting a mercury purchasing policy and a community/employee mercury education program.

Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital and

Dartmouth Hitchcock Clinic

One Medical Center Drive

Lebanon, NH 03756

Tel: (603) 650-7233

Contact: Victoria Jas

- Hospital and clinic

Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital and Dartmouth Hitchcock Clinic are being recognized for their mercury reduction achievements including the elimination of 80% of their mercury containing sphygmomanometers and all of their mercury patient thermometers. Over the last several years, the hospital and clinic have eliminated the use of mercury-filled miller abott tubes, mercury-filled esophageal dilators and some mercury lab solutions. The hospital and clinic established a mercury free resolution in December 1998. The resolution states that the hospital and clinic should discontinue the purchase of new mercury containing equipment where other non-hazardous alternatives are available such as aneroid

new hampshire partners

sphygmomanometers and non-mercury thermometers, that existing mercury devices should be replaced with non-hazardous devices whenever possible, and strongly encourages the elimination or reduction of mercury and mercury compounds in any process or procedure performed at the hospital and clinic.

Wentworth Douglass Hospital

789 Central Avenue

Dover, NH 03820

Tel: (603) 740-2462

Contact: Allan Crandall

- Trauma II hospital
- 178 beds

Wentworth Douglass Hospital is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements, including eliminating 101 of its 114 mercury sphygmomanometers and removing all mercury thermometers from service. This year, the hospital also stopped the practice of sending new mothers home with mercury thermometers. Also this year, the hospital removed 26 mercury containing esophageal dilators and replaced them with a tungsten version. In addition, the hospital held an employee thermometer swap which collected over 100 mercury thermometers. The hospital had already switched to low mercury fluorescent light bulbs which are recycled. The hospital estimates that it is 86% mercury free and has set a goal of being 95% mercury free by December 31, 2001. This is two years earlier than the hospital projected in 1999.

VA Medical Center

718 Smyth Road

Manchester, NH 03104

Tel: (603) 626-6534

Contact: Joseph Stillings

- Medical Center
- 120 bed nursing home

The VA Medical Center is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including replacing all of its mercury thermometers with non-mercury and replacing 312 mercury blood pressure units with non-mercury units which accounts for virtually all of their blood pressure units. In addition, the VA Medical Center has replaced 98% of its light switch ballasts with non-mercury and non-pcb. The VA has also replaced over 3,000 of its high mercury content lights with low level mercury lights. Since 1993, the medical center has been collecting and recycling batteries and fluorescent light bulbs. The VA Medical Center will continue to explore alternatives for mercury-containing equipment they still utilize.

rhode island partners

Rhode Island Hospital

593 Eddy Street

Providence, RI 02903

Tel: (401) 444-5432

Contact: James P. Connors

• Academic medical center • 719 beds

Rhode Island Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including its mercury elimination plan and employee education about proper handling and disposal of mercury. The hospital's 1999 mercury elimination plan states that "Mercury products in hospitals, clinics and laboratories should be substituted if non-mercury alternatives are available. If substitution is not possible, it is imperative that the mercury products are managed."

South County Hospital

100 Kenyon Avenue

Wakefield, RI 02879

Tel: (401) 782-8000

Contact: Brian L. Wallin

• Community hospital • 100 beds

South County Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction plan which includes educating the staff as to the health risks of mercury and seeking further reduction in usage in 2001. The hospital already converted all light fixtures to low mercury bulbs. In addition, virtually all areas of the hospital also use non-mercury tympanic thermometers. South County Hospital's overall goal is to be mercury free by 2002.

vermont partners

Porter Medical Center

115 Porter Drive

Middlebury, VT 05753

Tel: (802) 388-4781

Contact: David Begins

• 50 bed hospital • 10 satellite locations

Porter Medical Center is being recognized for its continued mercury reduction achievements including completing its plan to replace its mercury-containing gastrointestinal tubes with a mercury free alternative. In addition, the medical center is being recognized for educating staff regarding mercury, working with its

vermont partners

purchasing department to review products for mercury content, working with construction contractors to make them more aware of products that might contain mercury and continuing its fluorescent light bulb recycling program. These accomplishments build on last year's efforts which included the elimination of mercury-containing sphygmomanometers and 98% of its mercury thermometers.

North County Hospital

189 Prouty Drive

Newport, VT 05855

Tel: (802) 334-3220

Contact: Oren Martin

- Acute care hospital
- 80 beds

North County Hospital is being recognized for its mercury reduction plan which includes phasing out mercury thermometers and sphygmomanometers over the next two years. In 1999, the hospital replaced its mercury-filled esophageal dilators. The hospital has been replacing mercury thermometers and batteries over the last several years.

VA Medical Center

215 N. Main Street

White River Junction, VT 05009

Tel: (802) 295-9363 x 6022

Contact: Gerald D. Cartier

- VA Medical Center
- 60 beds

VA Medical Center is being recognized for its mercury reduction achievements including the elimination of mercury thermometers except in limited situations for the chemistry laboratory and the elimination of mercury blood pressure units. The VA Medical Center estimates that it is 95% mercury free through mercury reduction efforts over the last three years. All other sources of mercury have been identified and will be removed when feasible.

partners for change

One additional medical facility is being recognized under our Partners for Change program.

New England Baptist Hospital

125 Parker Hill Avenue

Boston, MA 02120

Tel: (617) 754-5103

Contact: Deborah Mulloy

- Acute care hospital
- 100 beds

EPA is recognizing New England Baptist Hospital for its recycling program which was able to recover 47 tons of materials in 1999. This represents approximately 18% of the hospital's waste. This program included collecting plastic, mixed paper and paper. In addition, the hospital focused on its red bag segregation program particularly in the operating room where clean materials were placed in red bags. The hospital was able to decrease the amount of red bag waste volume even though the number of surgical cases increased. The recycling program is now in the process of being revised and expanded to promote a healthier environment.

the national program

Hospitals for a Healthy Environment: An AHA/EPA Partnership

On June 24, 1998, the American Hospital Association and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding to advance pollution prevention efforts in hospitals. The resulting program, called Hospitals for a Healthy Environment or H2E, calls for the elimination of mercury-containing waste from hospitals' waste streams by 2005 and the reduction of overall volume of wastes by 33% by 2005 and by 50% by 2010.

Medical waste incinerators are the 4th largest emitters of mercury into the environment. And, hospitals generate 1% of all municipal solid waste. The EPA and AHA entered into this MOU for the primary purpose of equipping AHA members and other health care professionals with the tools and information necessary to minimize the production of persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic ("PBT") pollutants and reducing the volumes of waste generated. Such reductions are beneficial to the environment and will minimize the waste disposal costs incurred by the health care industry.

Pledge your support for the H2E goals by signing the pledge letter. The letter pledges your support for the elimination of mercury from the waste stream by 2005 and total waste volume reduction of 50% by 2010. Furthermore, it articulates your desire to implement programs and policies which will protect the environment and advance community health. Hospitals who take the pledge will be notified about the national awards program when it is ready later in 2001.

Visit the H2E website at <http://www.h2e-online.org> to access a variety of tools including:

- A Guide to Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
- Resource Directory
- Chemical Waste Minimization Plan
- Hospital Waste Survey
- Ethylene Oxide Fact Sheet
- Mercury- Virtual Elimination Program
- Best Management Practices
- Hospital Wide Waste Reduction Plan

the national program

Hospitals for a Healthy Environment: Hospital Pledge

As a responsible provider of health care services, _____
_____ is committed to the health of its patients, staff,
and the communities it serves. Hospitals have been found to be a source of
mercury and other waste pollution that comes from caring for patients. Fortunately,
opportunities exist to reduce these byproducts through alternative practices.

That's why _____ supports Hospitals
for a Healthy Environment, a voluntary program, sponsored by the American
Hospital Association, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and in coopera-
tion with Health Care Without Harm. The program calls for the reduction of the
total volume and toxicity of hospital waste. We are committed to the goals of the
partnership: the virtual elimination of mercury waste by the year 2005 and the
reduction of total waste volume by 33% in 2005 and 50% in 2010.

To date, _____ has implemented the
following policies and practices in support of the above goals:

In addition, _____ pledges
to undertake further activities to eliminate mercury from the waste stream and
reduce the total volume of waste generated by the facility in order to meet the
goals. We welcome the additional tools and educational programs that will be
made available to health care facilities to assist our efforts.

We are proud to join the growing number of hospitals across the nation in
pledging our commitment to *Hospitals for a Healthy Environment*.

Signed: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Hospital: _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone: _____

Please send completed forms to:

Mail: Hospitals for a Healthy Environment
c/o American Hospital Association
One North Franklin
Chicago, IL 60606
Fax: (312) 422-4572